

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A hand-held cable reel (1) comprising a central cable receiving core (3) mounted between a pair of disc like end flanges (5,7), each disc like end flange (5,7) having a handle (9,11) mounted on the outermost surface of the flange, the handles being radially offset from the central axis of the cable receiving core (3) and circumferentially offset relative to each other,

characterised in that

each handle (9, 11) further comprises a substantially c-shaped grip portion (12) having a body portion (13) bridging a pair of inwardly depending arms (15,17), the free end of each of the arms (15,17) facing the flange upon which it is mounted, each (9,11) handle being rotatably mounted on its respective flange.

2. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 1 in which each of the handles (9,11) further comprises a base portion (21), the base portion (21) being connected to the free ends of each of the arms of the grip portion (12) so that the grip portion (12) and the base portion (21) are arranged to form a loop for reception of at least one finger of an operator therethrough, the base portion (21) in turn being rotatably mounted on the flange.

3. (Original) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 2 in which the base portion (21) and the grip portion (12) are arranged to form a closed loop, the closed loop being substantially elliptical in shape.

4. (Currently amended) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 2 or 3 in which the grip portion (12) is hingedly mounted on the base portion (21).

5. (Original) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 4 in which there is provided means to releasably secure the grip portion (12) in position relative the base portion (21).

6. (Original) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 5 in which the means to releasably secure the grip portion (12) in position relative the base portion (21) comprises one of an over centre spring, a spring lock and a twist lock.

7. (Currently amended) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in ~~any of claims 2 to 6~~ claim 2 in which the grip portion (12) is releasably secured to the base portion (21).

8. (Currently amended) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 in which there is provided a gripping member (301) connected to the handle (9,11) to releasably secure the cable reel to a wire.

9. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 8 in which the gripping member (301) further comprises a v-shaped hook (303) having a pair of legs (305,307) connected to each other, one of the legs being connected to the handle.

10. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 2 in which the grip portion (12) is

provided with a cut to allow through passage of a wire internal the loop formed by the grip portion (12) and the base portion (21), the grip portion (12) being so dimensioned to form an acute angle at the point of contact with the base portion (21) for reception of a piece of wire.

11. (Original) A hand-held cable reel (1) comprising a central cable receiving core (3) mounted between a pair of disc like end flanges (5,7), each disc like end flange (5,7) having a handle (9,11) mounted on the outermost surface of the flange (5,7), the handles (9,11) being radially offset from the central axis of the core (3) and circumferentially offset relative to each other, characterised in that

at least one of the handles (9,11) further comprises a shaft (25) cranked intermediate its ends to form an L-shaped handle, the proximal end (27) of which is hingedly attached to the flange (9,11) and the distal end forming a hand grip (31), the handle (9,11) being pivotable about the hinge to and from an operating position in which the hand grip (31) protrudes laterally from the flange (5,7) and a storage position in which the hand grip (31) extends from one flange across the core to the other flange.

12. (Original) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 11 in which the L-shaped handle is movable through an angle of approximately 180°.

13. (Currently amended) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 11 or 12 in which the flange (5,7) opposite the flange (5,7) upon which the L-shaped handle is mounted is provided

with means to releasably secure the L-shaped handle in a storage position.

14. (Original) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 13 in which the flange (5,7) opposite the flange (5,7) upon which the L-shaped handle is mounted is cam shaped and that flange is provided with a receiving hole (35) for receiving the end of the hand grip (31) of the L-shaped handle and releasably securing the L-shaped handle in a storage position.

15. (Original) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 13 in which the means to releasably secure the L-shaped handle in position comprises a spring lock.

16. (Currently amended) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 11 in which there is provided a plurality of circumferentially spaced holes (45) spaced apart on each flange and at least one bollard (41) on each flange (5,7) for securing the cable, thereby preventing further payout of the cable.

17. (Original) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 16 in which the bollard(41) has a corrugated groove (47) across its width for reception of a cable therein.

18. (Currently amended) A hand-held cable reel (1) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 11 in which there is provided an inner circle cut-out (65) on at least one flange (5,7) and a toothed section (69) of the inner circle cut-out for securing a piece of cable and preventing further payout of the cable.

19. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) comprising a central cable receiving core (3) mounted between a pair of disc like end flanges (5,7), the cable reel further comprising means to retain the cable in position (101) relative the cable reel, characterised in that said means to retain the cable in position relative the cable reel further comprises a gripping device (103) having an elongate body portion secured at one end (105) to the flange and its other end (107) being dimensioned to receive a cable, the end (107) dimension to receive a cable being movable from a loading position substantially intermediate the pair of flanges (5,7) and a securing position substantially external the flanges, the cable reel further comprising a hole (109) in the flange, the end (107) of the gripping device dimensioned to receive a cable being movable through the hole (109) in the flange to and from a loading position and a securing position.

20. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 19 in which there are provided a plurality of holes (109) in the flange (5,7) and the end (105) of the gripping device (103) secured to the flange is rotatably mounted on the outermost surface of the flange so that the gripping device (103) may be rotated about the flange and the end (107) of the gripping device dimensioned to receive the cable may be passed through any one of the holes (109) at any one time.

21. (Currently amended) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 19 or 20 in which there are provided ridges (111) protruding outwardly from the outermost surface of the flange (5,7) adjacent the hole (109) for through passage of the end (107) of the gripping device dimensioned

to receive a cable to prevent inadvertent dislodgement of the gripping device.

22. (Currently amended) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in ~~any of claims 19 to 21~~ claim 19 in which the end of the gripping device (107) dimensioned to receive the cable is flush with the innermost surface of the flange (5,7) when the gripping device (103) is not in use.

23. (Currently amended) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in ~~any of claims 19 to 22~~ claim 19 in which there is provided an outwardly depending lip around the circumference of the flange having the gripping device mounted thereon.

24. (Currently amended) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in ~~any of claims 19 to 23~~ claim 19 in which the gripping device (103) is constructed from a resiliently deformable material.

25. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) of the type comprising a central cable receiving core (3) mounted between a pair of disc like end flanges (5,7), a handle (9) mounted on the outermost surface of one of the disc like end flanges (5,7) radially offset from the central axis of the core, characterised in that there is provided a central bore (121) extending substantially along the length of the central cable receiving core (3) accessible through a hole in the other disc like end flange (5,7) and there is further provided a rotatably mounted handle (123) located at the bottom of the central bore.

26. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 25 in which at least one of the

handles (9, 123) further comprises a base portion (21) rotatably mounted on the cable reel and a grip portion (23) mounted on the base portion (21), the base portion (21) and the grip portion (23) being arranged to form a loop for reception of at least one finger of an operator therethrough.

27. (Currently amended) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 25 or ~~26~~ in which the rotatably mounted handle (123) located at the bottom of the central bore further comprises a base portion rotatably mounted on the bottom of the central bore and a grip portion mounted on the base portion arranged to form a loop for reception of the fingers of an operator therethrough.

28. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 27 in which the base portion (191) of the handle (123) located at the bottom of the central bore (121) further comprises an outwardly projecting cylindrical lip (195) substantially surrounding the base portion (191) and extending orthogonally therefrom so that the hand of the operator may be placed on the handle with the lip (195) substantially surrounding the hand of the operator to prevent injury to the hand of the operator on rotation of the handle (123).

29. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 28 in which the outwardly projecting lip (195) further comprises at its outermost end a protective flange (197) extending substantially orthogonal to the lip (195) and which lies along in close proximity to portion of the external face of the disc like end flange.

30. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 29 in which the protective flange (197) is annular and surrounds the outwardly projecting cylindrical lip.

31. (Currently amended) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in ~~claim 26 to 30~~ claim 26 in which the loop formed by the grip portion and the base portion is substantially elliptical in shape.

32. (Currently amended) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in ~~any of claims 25 to 31~~ claim 25 in which the central bore (121) extends along the entire length of the cable receiving core (3) and the rotatably mounted handle (123) located at the bottom of the bore is mounted on the innermost surface of the flange (5,7) upon which there is the other handle mounted on it's outermost surface.

33. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) of the type comprising a cable receiving core (3) mounted between a pair of disc like end flanges (5,7) characterized in that the hand held cable reel further comprises a pair of disc like operating flanges (161, 163) substantially coplanar with and having a greater diameter than the disc like end flanges(5, 7), the disc like end flanges (5,7) and operating flanges (161, 163) being freely rotatable with respect to each other.

34. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 33 in which the operating flanges(161, 163) are mounted external the end flanges (5,7) relative the cable receiving core (3).

35. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 34 in which the cable receiving core (3) is substantially hollow and the pair of operating flanges (161,163) are connected together by way of a central elongate strut(169) passing through the hollow cable receiving core (3) and connected to one of the operating flanges (161,163) at one of its ends and the other of the operating flanges (161,163) at its other end.

36. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 35 in which the central elongate strut (169) is telescopic so that the pair of outer flanges may move towards and away from each other.

37. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 36 in which there is provide a locking mechanism to hold the two operating flanges in position relative to each other.

38. (Original) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in claim 37 in which the locking mechanism is a bayonet fitting.

39. (Currently amended) A hand held cable reel (1) as claimed in ~~any of claims 33 to 38~~ claim 33 in which there is further provided an additional locking mechanism to releasably secure the operating flanges (161,163) and the end flanges (5,7) in position relative to each other.